

aside for the present, because their false arrangement would only cause more confusion than already exists. Farther on in our work we will express our

views on the forms which have not been examined by us. Meanwhile we recommend that the possessors of types examine them in the light of our system.

JOHN WITT RANDALL.

Dr. J. W. Randall who died at Roxbury, Mass., 25 January 1892 is known to the present generation of entomologists as the author of two papers descriptive of Coleoptera from Maine and Massachusetts published more than fifty years ago in the second volume of the Boston journal of natural history. John Witt Randall was born in Boston, 13 November 1813. His father Dr. John Randall was an eminent physician of Boston and his mother Elizabeth Wells was the granddaughter of Samuel Adams the revolutionary patriot. He graduated from Harvard College in 1834. One of his classmates says: "he displayed a marked originality of character. Though among us, he was not wholly of us, but seemed to have thoughts, pursuits, and aspirations to which we were strangers. His tastes developed in a scientific direction, entomology being the branch to which he devoted himself. The college at that time did little to encourage such pursuits, but he pursued the even tenor of his way till he had made a very fine collection of insects." Dr. Randall studied medicine after his graduation. He was offered and accepted an appointment in zoology connected with the Wilkes exploring expedition to the South Seas; owing however to the de-

lays which occurred before the expedition sailed he resigned.

Dr. Randall's scientific papers are as follows:

1. Descriptions of new species of coleopterous insects inhabiting the state of Maine. *Bost. journ. nat. hist.*, Feb. 1838, v. 2, no. 1, pp. 1-33.

2. Descriptions of new species of coleopterous insects inhabiting the state of Massachusetts. *Bost. journ. nat. hist.*, Feb. 1838, v. 2, no. 1, pp. 34-52.

(See *Proc. Bost. soc. nat. hist.*, Jan. 1875, v. 17, pp. 373-385. On the species of Coleoptera described by Mr. J. W. Randall, by P. S. Sprague with notes by E. P. Austin.)

3. Catalogue of the Crustacea brought by Thomas Nuttall and J. K. Townsend from the west coast of North America and the Sandwich Islands with descriptions of such species as are apparently new, among which are included several species of different localities previously existing in the collection of the Academy. *Journ. acad. nat. sci. Phil.*, 1839, v. 8, pt. 1, pp. 106-147, pl. 3-7.

A volume on the animals and plants of Maine was prepared but not published.

His volume of poems entitled *Consolations of Solitude*, Boston, 1856, 2d edition 1857, was commended by J. H. Abbott in the *North American review*.

(Continued from page 304).

STICTHIPPIUS (ΣΤΙΚΤΙΟΣ, ἵππος) subgen. nov.

Head closely resembling that of *Hippiscus*, with small but deep and conspicuous triangular lateral foveolae, and between their anterior extremities a distinct, depressed, transversely biareolate field; frontal costa sulcate above, especially about the ocellus. Antennae rather slender, uniform throughout, about as long as head and pronotum together in the ♀, less than twice as long as the pronotum in the ♂, apically tapering only on last joint or two. Pronotum with the dorsal field nearly flat with a slight median carina which is occasionally subobsolete on the posterior part of the metazona and normally cut only by the typical sulcus, but sometimes slightly cut by the anterior sulcus of the prozona and more or less interrupted behind it, in which case there is a distinct discal scutellum, the posterior sulcus of the prozona terminating in two forks, one at the lateral borders of the discal scutellum, the other by deeply cutting the lateral walls of that scutellum close to the median line; metazona distinctly longer than the prozona, rectangular or obtusangulate behind; surface scabrous, the lateral carinae obscure. Tegmina as in *Hippiscus*, with scattered maculations hardly pantherine. Wings with the whole outer border broadly infumate, subvitreous apically so as to give the inner part the semblance of an arcuate band, and connecting with a broad humeral taenia which extends nearly to the base. Legs as in *Hippiscus*. Mesosternal lobes separated by a deeply truncate cuneiform median piece, the inner margins of the lobes being rapidly and widely divergent.

This subgenus is closely allied to the other subgenera of *Hippiscus*,—*Hippiscus* and *Xanthippus*, and to *Leprus*. It

differs from all most strikingly in the form of the mesosternal lobes which lie at about the same distance apart as in the two first, to which it is certainly most nearly allied. From *Leprus* it also differs in the presence of a humeral taenia on the wings. It agrees better with *Hippiscus* than with *Xanthippus* in the structure of the antennae and of the median carina of the pronotum, although itself very variable, and from *Hippiscus* it may be separated also by the biareolate sunken fastigium between the lateral foveolae of the face.

HIPPISCUS (S.) CALIFORNICUS sp. nov.

A compact form of rather small size. Very dull brownish fuscous, with a slight yellowish tinge, faintly flecked or blotched with dusky spots and obscurely dotted with black, the head plump and full, dark on the upper third, the rest dull clay yellow and nearly free from dots; summit of head nearly smooth, with a few dull low minute verrucosities, a faint median carina and the walls of the vertical fastigium dull but distinct; lateral foveolae small, triangular, rather deep; frontal costa moderately narrow, subequal, contracted very slightly at summit and again a little more distinctly beneath the ocellus, rather deeply sulcate especially below the ocellus. Antennae testaceous, infuscated in apical half, a little longer (♂) or a little shorter (♀) than head and prothorax together. Pronotum stout, especially in the ♀, the metazona very faintly tumid, its lateral carinae sharp anteriorly especially in the ♂; dorsal field of whole pronotum somewhat minutely verrucose, many of the verru-